



"Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man."

ROTATION OF CROPS.

In our last, we gave a short statement about the course of rotation of crops, followed by some of the farmers in Ontario Co., N. Y. Since then, we find an article embracing this subject, with some others, in the December number of the Horticulturist.

In giving an account of the farming operations of Mr. Lurman, a gentleman who has a large farm near Baltimore, and who manages very successfully, we find that he pursues a similar rotation.

We extract the following which illustrates this part of his operations; though the whole article is instructive and shows how successful a combination of capital, system, and energy, may be in farming.

"Mr. Lurman farms four hundred of his six hundred acres, entirely with free labor, as more profitable than slaves, in the field. His routine of cropping, on the old Pennsylvania plan, is as follows:—

The farm is in five fields, varying from 80 to 100 acres. He breaks up the pasture field in the fall and plants it with corn in the spring. The ensuing spring it is ploughed up, and one-half seeded with barley, and one-half with clover.

When these crops are off, it is ploughed deeply with three-horse ploughs for wheat, which is sown from the 20th of September to the 5th of October, when 300 lbs. to the acre of the best Peruvian guano has been put on.

The ensuing spring, say in March, red clover is sown on the wheat; the first crop of clover has thus come the fourth year after commencing the system. The second crop of clover is cut for seed if the season is favorable; if not it is pastured, occasionally by droves of cattle going eastward, the owners of which all know Mr. L.'s superior fields; the pasture is greatly benefited by droppings, and a revenue also obtained.

The fifth year the field is permitted to rest in pasture. The consequence of this system is that we have always

One field in corn,
" " " oats and barley,
" " " wheat,
" " " clover and timothy,
" " " pasture.

So that every fifth year the land returns to the same crop; the advantage of this system is for the giving two spring ploughings for the corn and oats and barley crops, and one in the fall succeeding the spring ploughing, when the field is put in wheat, the soil is thoroughly pulverized and weeds exterminated.

In breaking up new soil, it is proper to put fifty to one hundred bushels of oyster-shell or stone lime to the acre, and ten to twenty bushels of bone-dust thoroughly pulverized, which in practice is found to be more efficacious than bone dissolved in acid. The manure of the farm is also composted, spread, and plowed in."

CURCULO.

MR. EDITOR:—As Fruit Growers in New Brunswick, we are comparatively young and inexperienced, but are trying to learn and get what information we can. We sometimes read theories and receive advice through the medium of agricultural periodicals, which to us in New Brunswick, seems to be of little use. I will trouble you with but one instance for the present, viz: It is said "that the way to prevent the Curculio from destroying the plum, is to watch for the injured fruit,—destroy the same, and thus prevent the insect within from coming to maturity and doing injury to the fruit the following spring." Now this is quite a mistake, or will not apply to our province, for, in the spring of 1855, I grafted upon some stalks of the red plum, (which, by the bye, never produced any thing but leaves and blight for the last five years) a few scions of the egg plum, which grew thickly, and this spring blossomed and put forth fruit, upon which I soon observed a small speck, and the whole was ultimately destroyed, one plum alone excepted. Now I had never raised any plums previously for the insect to destroy, nor had there ever been any plums of the kind raised within miles of where my garden is located, so that there was no fruit for the insect to come out of, but when the young fruit began to swell, the beetle found its way thither and commenced the work of destruction.

Can you inform us if the insect travels up the stalk of the tree, and if so, would not its progress be stopped by giving the bark a coat of tar? Or does it approach the young fruit from the wing? And if so, can any thing be done to keep the enemy at a respectful distance?

Sheffield, N. B. A LOVER OF PLUMS.

NOTE: So it seems our neighbors in New Brunswick are not exempt from the ravages of the curculio. The result of our correspondent's experiment proves that, although the curculio prefers plums, he can nevertheless and does live on something else when plums are not to be had. Hence he has been living in that neighborhood without plums until the grafting and blossoming of the egg plum, when he was ready to pounce upon and destroy them. This insect has wings, and can fly like a bird. He flies in the night, up the stem of the tree? No doubt destroying the punctured plums will prevent the increase of curculio, but if they live on other food than that of plums, destroying all the plums will not destroy all the curculio. They will probably continue to baffle the fruit grower until more is known of their habits and mode of life. [Ed.]

CATTLE standing in cold, muddy yards, exposed to the weather, consume about twice as much as those in sheltered stables kept clean and littered, and free from the accumulation of manure.

KENNEBEC COUNTY AG. SOCIETY. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

On Crops.
To the Trustees of the Kennebec County Agricultural Society.

GENTLEMEN:—The past season has been one of singular results in regard to most of the crops cultivated among us. The spring and the summer were propitious to the germination and to the growth of seed, and the good growth of almost every kind of vegetation led the farmer to anticipate an abundant harvest. In this he was much disappointed, for notwithstanding the good growth of the crops, the rains and the fogs of the latter part of the season, injured them very much, and the harvest was in most cases very light indeed. To this fact we attribute the reason why there were so few entries made for the premiums which were offered on the various crops.

There were no entries for your premiums on wheat, corn, rye and oats. Three competitors appeared for your premiums on barley, viz: S. N. Watson, of North Fayette; S. H. Richardson, of Readfield, and Samuel G. Fogg of Readfield.

According to the statements of each, their respective crops were as follows:—Mr. Watson, harvested from one half acre, twenty-three bushels per half acre, and Mr. Fogg harvested from one acre thirty-seven bushels.

Mr. Richardson is not so full in his statements as we could desire, as it regards the expense of the crop, but as it appears that he was successful in obtaining the largest crop per acre (46 bu.) we feel bound to award to him the first premium. To S. N. Watson we award the second premium.

But few competitors have come forward for your premiums on Root crops. The nature of the potato root has been exceedingly disastrous to that crop, and no one applied for the premiums offered by you on that crop.

Your premium on carrots was awarded to S. N. Watson, of Fayette, for his crop of 80 bushels on 1/4 of an acre. We also award to him your premium on ruta bagas of 80 bu. on 1/4 of an acre.

These crops would not have been considered extra in common years, but considering all the disasters of the season on crops in general, we think it doing very well. Your second premiums on these and other crops of the kind, have not been awarded, for the reason there was no competitor worthy to take them.

On Compost. But one claimant appears for your premium on compost heap, viz: Mr. Horace Parlin, of East Winthrop. From his statements of his process and success in his operation, we are induced to award him your first premium on compost.

Mr. Parlin's statement is herewith submitted. As there was no other competitor, your second premium offered on compost has not been awarded. Respectfully yours, E. HOLMES, Per order.

MR. PARLIN'S STATEMENT.
In preparing my compost manure, the material I use is much, dug a year before using, and decomposed by mixing lime slacked in brine as strong as can be made, four bushels to the cord, several weeks before using.

My cattle are tied up during the summer, and each day, as much of this prepared mud thrown behind them as will absorb their urine. Once a week, the heap is leveled to the back side of the shed, which is 16 ft. wide, covered with mud, and wet with water from the wash-room, with occasionally a coating of plaster.

Lime and ashes should not be used with rich manure. I have a space under my stable floor, some three feet deep, which I fill with mud and exchange once a year.

Of this manure I have made, with four cows and a horse, 40 loads of 45 bushels each, from the 1st of June to the 1st of November.

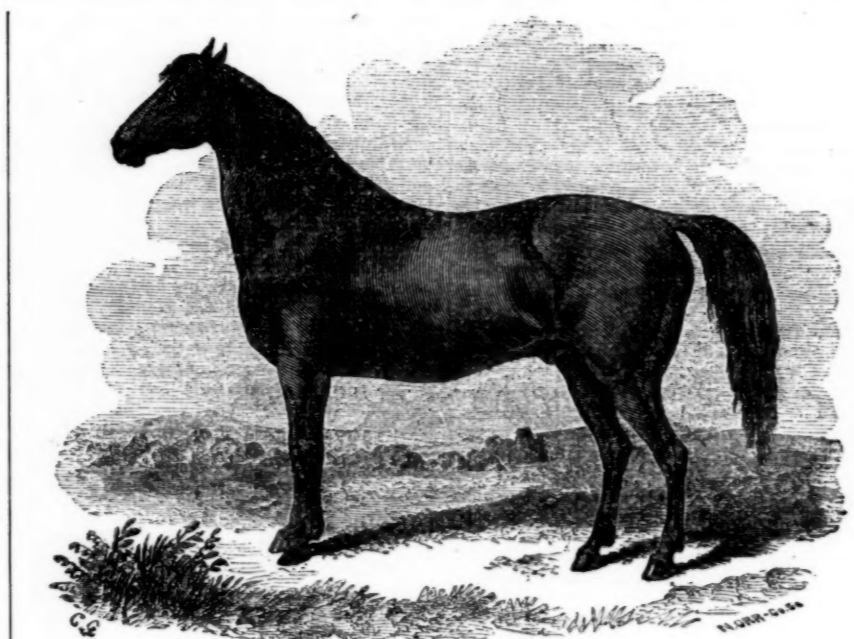
H. PARLIN.
East Winthrop, Dec. 8th, 1856.

CLEARING AND DRAINING MARSH LANDS.
The reclaiming of marshes is a matter of much importance to those countries whose farms are disfigured by such waste places. They are not, like wood-lands, constantly increasing in value, but are wholly useless, and often the source of malaria, injurious to all within its influence. And when cleared and drained, they become the most easily cultivated and productive portion of the farm, often paying, in a single year the whole expense of bringing them into condition for cropping.

Ditching may, in most instances, be best performed in autumn, but the work of clearing them commenced can be continued in winter, as long as the depth of the snow will permit. The bushes will cut easier then—the timber of shrubs growing in such places generally proving brittle when frozen. In a black alder swamp considerable fuel may be saved—the fine brush may be left in heaps to dry until early summer. As soon as drained and cleared most farmers sow with oats and stock with timothy and red-top, with no other cultivation than a thorough harrowing. A fine soil will soon form, either for pasture or mowing—or the land may be cultivated in corn, potatoes, and different spring crops.

PORK FOR JOURNAL BOXES. Why is it not used? We have asked fifty railroad men within so many days, if they were not aware of its success. They all answered in the affirmative, and spoke of it as a very important item in railroad economy. If it is proved to fail, anywhere, we solicit the communication of the fact, that we may tell many others who are about attempting the experiment, what the trouble is.

On the Housatonic road, a year ago, a car was packed with slices of fresh pork. It was once or twice opened, and found all right, as it is to-day, as far as it is possible to judge, as it was a year ago. The car has been run regularly since November last. The wheels are perfectly clean, and run easy, and the pork, during warm weather, emitted no disagreeable smell. The cost per box for pork packing that will stand at least one year, will not exceed thirty cents. [Exchange.]



Morgan Horse "Black Jack."

MORGAN HORSE "BLACK JACK."
The above engraving is a representation of the Morgan Horse "Black Jack." We copy the following account of his pedigree from Linsley's book on Morgan horses, just out.

Was foaled June 3, 1849, the property of Charles Linsley, of Middlebury, Vt. Sired by Hackett Horse, g sire, Gifford, g g sire, Woodbury, g g g sire, Justin Morgan. Dam, Bay Flirt, bred near Lancaster, Ohio, and sired by Melley, he by Little Melley, and he by imported Melley, g dam, by Shepard's Consul, and he by Bond's First Consul. For further pedigree of Melley and Bond's First Consul, see American Stud Book. "Black Jack" is 15 hands high and weighs 1,070 lbs.; color, black chestnut, without marks; is a compact, enduring horse, a good traveler, and is perfectly sound. He is now owned by G. L. Linsley, of Kankakee City, Illinois.

SWEDISH HORSES.
FRIEND BROWN:—Please copy the enclosed paragraph (out from a paper) which corroborates my statement in relation to hard floors, and is slightly at war with your correspondent at Derby Line:—

"In Sweden the floors of the stables are planked, and the planks are perforated with holes, so that wet will not lodge on them—the bare boards being the only bedding allowed. To this lodging the Swedes attribute the soundness of their horses' feet, as it is quite uncommon to meet with a lame or foundered horse in Sweden which has been so shod."

This practice, no doubt, begins with the foal. Hence the enduring soundness of the feet. Herefore we have argued the filthy practice in discharging the feet.

Nothing more need be said upon this point. It appears neither cushions for the feet nor bedding for the body are used in Sweden, but their horses are made hardy by omitting these kind practices. Is it not a mistaken kindness that we deal so largely with bedding?

A few years since nothing short of a feather bed was tolerated, even in mid-summer. Now it is hanks, hair, straw, or the soft side of a pine floor, in preference. If you happen to find a friend to carry over night, and to take a sweat in advance, just take a peep into the fat, plump feather-bed—or, take the reality and plunge in—to dream of warm water rain storms, or of drowning in your own perspiration—and waking unrefreshed, to find yourself an exhausted mass of vitality.

The comparison is not inapt; hard beds for man and hard floors for horses, in either case, to promote health. An elm plank floor or oak is cheaper and better than pine for horse stalls. All dealers and raisers of horses may learn a good lesson from the Swedish paragraph.

H. POOR.
[New England Farmer.]

SHELTER WANTED. Shelter is a want of the first necessity in our climate of cold and storm, and no farmer may neglect, with any show of economy, sundry provisions of this nature. A portion of these wants are everywhere conceded, others are carelessly forgotten and neglected. We often see farms upon which no provision has been made for the shelter of a portion of the stock through the winter. Sheep, cattle, young cattle, and perhaps the cows, are left to shiver unprotected. Does the farmer know that he can ill afford the loss which results? To keep an animal exposed to the weather in good order requires nearly double the food necessary when comfortably sheltered; and the increased value of the manure will repay the trouble attending the extra care then required. There is a heavy loss in the exposure of manure to the weather. The chief value of a fertilizer lies in that part which water will dissolve. Let it lie and leach through the winter and spring, and a good share of its worth is gone; shelter it in beds and cellars, and a saving will be made—proving this the true economy where manure is valued and good crops desired. [Evening Post.]

DEATH OF A CELEBRATED WAR HORSE. Black Warrior, a celebrated war horse died in New York, last week. He was 28 years old, and it is stated that he served throughout the Florida war, subsequently was used in the chase of wild Indians, horse thieves, border ruffians, and at odd spells, of foxes, deer and buffalo, at the various military posts on the prairies west of Arkansas. Having marched all over the country, and swam all the principal rivers between St. Augustine, Fla., and Mexico, he was in the whole of the Mexican war, and took an active part in nine general battles, having been wounded by a musket ball at Molinos del Rey and again by a piece of shell at Chapultepec. He was ridden by Kosuth, and also by President Pierce, on the occasion of their triumphal entries into the city of New York a few years since, and was never in harness; but was unequalled for discipline and grace of movement under the saddle.

HOW TO KEEP FAT STOCK. Good hay is not only the basis of fattening, if you feed in winter, but all you need for wintering stock which is in good order in the fall. A skillful farmer can make healthy cattle grow all winter by taxing his ingenuity to see how much good hay he can manage to get them to eat; and this is the great secret in keeping stock. He who attempts the experiment, as very many do, of trying to winter cattle on the least possible quantity of hay, will find himself in the end in very much the condition of the economist, who tried to see with how much salt he could winter his pork. When warm weather came, however, to his great astonishment he had not only lost his salt, but his pork. [Dickinson's Address.]

THE APPROACH OF COLD WEATHER.

One morn, what time the sickle 'gan to play,
The eastern gales of Heaven were open laid,
When forth the rosy hours did lead a mazy way,
From her sweet eyes she shed a softer'd ray,
Blushing and fair she was; and from the braid
Of her gold locks, she shook forth perfumes gay;
Yet languid look'd and indolently stray'd
A while, to watch the harvest born away.
But now, with snows and frosts, and aspect hale,
With bush'd legs, and quiver 'cross her flank,
With hounds and horns she seeks the wood and vale,
And Echo listens to her forest song.
At eve, she flies to hear the poet's tale,
And Autumn's name resounds his shades among.
[Bayreux.]

SOUTH KENNEBEC AG. SOCIETY. AWARDS OF PREMIUMS.

W. S. Grant, Farmington, for entire horse, 1st prem., \$500; W. McL. Mitchell, Litchfield, 2d do., 400; F. L. McGowan, Bangor, for three years old stallion, 1st prem., 500; W. M. Hutton, Litchfield, stallion, 1-2 year old, 2d do., 200.

M. True, Litchfield, best breeding mare, 1st prem., 600; C. C. Grant, Augusta, 2d do., 400; M. G. Pittman, mare and three colts, 3d do., 300; Charles Miliken, Farmington, carriage horses in harness, 1st prem., 500; W. Thompson, Farmington, 2d do., 400.

W. L. & W. R. Lewis, Pittsford, draft horse, 1st prem., 500; W. L. Lewis, Pittsford, single do., 1st prem., 300.

Nathan Foster, Gardiner, carriage horse in harness, 1st prem., 300; G. Hutton, Jr., Windsor, 2d do., 200; P. Rogers, Bath, 3d do., 200.

Stephen Barton, Windsor, family horse in harness, 1st prem., 300; S. S. Ayer, Pittsford, 2d do., 200; G. E. Gardner, saddle horse, 1st prem., 400; E. C. Moody, Augusta, 2d do., 300.

S. W. Edwards, West Gardiner, four years old gelding, 1st prem., 200; A. Libby, Gardiner, 2d do., 200; A. Young, Pittsford, gelding under four, 1st prem., 300; J. Brann, West Gardiner, 2d do., 200.

John Crawford, Gardiner, filly, 1st prem., 300; S. Blanchard, Pittsford, 2d do., 200.

Honry Burton, Gardiner, drew colt, 300; E. F. Marston, Pittsford, 2d do., 200.

F. L. McGowan, best trotting horse, 1st prem., 200; W. S. Grant, Farmington, 1st prem., 200; John Arnold, Augusta, 2d do., 500; J. H. Hussey, Augusta, 3d do., 300; H. Pettengill, Augusta, 4th do., 200.

Daniel Lawrence, Pittsford, 1st prem., second class, 500; Samuel Gardin, Hallowell, 2d do., 400; James Gould, Pittsford, 3d do., 300; S. Moody, Pittsford, 4th do., 200; J. Richardson, Augusta, four years old, 1st prem., 400; V. T. Pierce, Windsor, 2d do., 300; H. Pope, West Gardiner, three years, 1st prem., 400; H. Clark, Pittsford, 2d do., 300; Wm. Curtis, Richmond, colt, Isaac Frost, Litchfield, two years old, 1st prem., 400; S. H. Jewett, Pittsford, 2d do., 300; L. Frost, Litchfield, steer calves, 1st prem., 300; Eben Libby, Gardiner, 2d do., 200.

J. H. Hussey, Augusta, best teamster, dip. PLOWING.
J. Huthings, Gardiner, 1st prem., 500; G. A. Page, Augusta, 2d do., 400; Henry Dow, Pittsford, 3d do., 300.

REEF CATTLE.
S. S. Ayer, Pittsford, pair oxen, 1st prem., 600; Seth Soper, Pittsford, 2d do., 300; R. H. Gardner, Gardiner, 3d do., 200; H. Pettengill, Augusta, single ox, 1st prem., 400; B. W. Keen, Windsor, 2d do., 200.

Gilmore Blin, Dresden, cow, 1st prem., 300.

Wm. S. Grant, Farmington, for 2 years old Durham bull, "Alexander," 1st prem., 400.

Samuel Gould, Augusta, best two years old or more, 1st prem., 400; Samuel Baird, Pittsford, 2d do., 300; Martin Metcalf, Litchfield, 3d do., 200; Horace Colburn, Windsor, yearling bull, 1st prem., 300.

Gilmore Blin, Dresden, bull calf, 1st prem., 300; A. W. True, Litchfield, 2d do., 200; Wm. Rolles, Pittsford, 3d do., equal to 2d prem.

J. T. Smart, Farmington, milch cow, 1st prem., 600; Stephen Barton, Windsor, 2d do., 400; Elijah Pope, West Gardiner, 3d do., equal to 2d prem.

Wm. S. Grant, Durham cow, 1st prem., 400.

Wm. S. Grant, three years old Jersey cow, 1st prem., 400.

Wm. Tarbox, Gardiner, native cow, 1st prem., 400; Aaron Hoag, Gardiner, two years old heifer, 1st prem., 300; M. Woodward, Gardiner, 2d do., 200; T. J. Rollins, Farmington, 3d do., 100.

W. S. Grant, Farmington, yearling heifer, Durham and Jersey, 1st prem., 300; Mark Johnson, Hallowell, 2d do., 200; Martin Metcalf, Litchfield, 3d do., 100.

Wm. S. Grant, Farmington, heifer calf, Durhams and Ayrshires, 1st prem., 200; W. R. Gay, Gardiner, 2d do., 100; R. H. Gardner, Gardiner, 3d do., equal to 2d prem.

Jeese Higgins, Farmington, best grade buck lamb, 1st prem., 200; James Gould, for same, 2d do., 100.

Daniel Lancaster, Farmington, half-dressed grade ewe sheep, 200.

SWINE AND POULTRY.
Aaron Hoag, Gardiner, 1st bog, 1st prem., 500; L. G. Harburt, Gardiner, 2d do., 400.

Jeese Higgins, Farmington, best breeding sow, 1st prem., 500; E. Pope, W. Gardiner, 2d do., 300.

Jeese Higgins, Farmington, best sucking pigs, 1st prem., 300; George Brown, 2d do., 200; A. Hoag, 3d do., 100.

Daniel Lancaster, Farmington, best fat pigs, 1st prem., 300; George Brown, 2d do., 100.

W. S. Grant, goose and ducks, 100; John French, Bolton grays, 100; N. K. Chadwick, white Pekins, 100; Wm. Peacock, half-dressed turkeys, 100; U. Briery, golden pheasants, 500; H. Richardson, 100.

TOWN TREES.
Augusta, twelve pairs, presented by John H. Hussey, 1st prem., 800; Farmington, 16 pairs, by W. S. Grant, 2d do., 700; Pittsford, 28 pairs, by Henry Dow, 3d do., 600.

Pittsford, best team two years old steers, by Samuel H. Jewett, 1st prem., 600.

STRUCTURAL IMPROVEMENTS AND MACHINES.
John Means & Son, Augusta, Michigan plow, 1st prem., 200; Same, vegetable cutter, 2d do., 100; Same, horse shoe, 3d do., 200; Same, fan mill and corn sheller, 100 each—200; Joseph Perry, Gardiner, barrel head machine, 500; Lot Goddard, W. Gardiner, award plow, 100.

CARRIAGES, CABINET AND SHIP WORK, STOVES, ETC.
J. Reynolds, Gardiner, two sleighs, 600; Robert Farris, Richmond, mill head, dip, 500; Samuel Adams, Jr., Gardiner, set parlor furniture, dip; J. Nash, chamber set, 100; Same, what-not, 500; Mrs. James Bates, two fancy scrap centre tables, 500.

BUTTER, CHEESE AND MEAT.
Mrs. Eben Libby, Gardiner, butter, 1st prem., 500; Mrs. S. Gould, Augusta, 2d do., 400; Miss Mar-

garet Carlton, West Gardiner, 3d do., 300; Miss L. D. Ayer, Pittsford, 4th do., 200.

Mrs. Daniel Fuller, West Gardiner, cheese, 1st prem., 400; Mrs. Abigail Weston, Litchfield, 2d do., 300; Mrs. Mary J. Metcalf, Litchfield, 3d do., 200.

Alden Rice, Farmington, honey, 1st prem., 100; Edward Peacock, West Gardiner, do., 500; Dr. E. J. Ford, Gardiner, do., 500.

LAMBS' WINGS.
Miss L. Anna Wakefield, West Gardiner, 1st prem., 2500; Miss Sarah E. Kezer, Windsor, 2d do., 2000; Miss Emma A. Atwood, Gardiner, 3d do., 1500; Miss Flora Nickerson, Pittsford, 4th do., 1000; Mrs. Almira Osgood, Gardiner, 5th do., 500.

FRUIT AND FLOWERS.
R. H. Gardner, Gardiner, greatest variety and best apples, 31 varieties, 1st prem., 200; Henry N. Parks, West Gardiner, 18 varieties, 2d do., 150; F. Glazier, Jr., Hallowell, 15 varieties, 3d do., 100; D. M. Stevens, Gardiner, 16 varieties, 4th do., 100; F. Glazier, Jr., Hallowell, best bushel winter apples, 50c; Jeese Higgins, best bushel fall apples, 50c; F. Glazier, Jr., best peck bellflowers, 50c; Same, best peck bellflowers, 50c; Alden Rice, Farmington, dish do., 50c; F. Glazier, Jr., dish Ribston pippins, 50c; R. H. Gardner, dish northern spy, 50c; Same, dish blue pearmain, 50c; D. A. Fairbanks, dish R. I. greenings, 50c; Same, dish Fairbanks apple, 50c; R. H. Gardner, dish bellflowers, 50c; H. N. Parks, dish Porter apple, 50c; F. Glazier, Jr., dish Winthrop greenings, 50c; Same, greatest variety of pears, 100; Dr. E. J. Ford, Gardiner, 2d do., 50c; Edward Sears, Gardiner, best Flemish Beauty pears, 50c; F. Glazier, Jr., do., 50c; N. Woods, Gardiner, dish Vitar of Winkfield pears, 50c; N. Foster, Gardiner, peaches, 1st prem., 500; Moses True, Litchfield, 2d do., 250; F. Wingate, Augusta, largest and best lot of grapes, 100; Dr. E. J. Ford, Gardiner, 2d do., 50c; Edward Sears, Gardiner, best Isabella grapes, 100; D. L. Lannister, Farmington, 2d do., 50c; Jeese Higgins, best sweet grapes, 50c; Alden Rice, pyramid of grapes, 75c; Mrs. A. Plumer, quince and currant jelly, 50c; Mrs. E. Byram, currant jelly, 50c; Dr. E. J. Ford, syrup, 25c; Mrs. H. C. Atkins, preserves, pickles, etc., 100; S. S. Ayer, Pittsford, best cranberries, 50c; Miss M. Carlton, W. Gardiner, do., 25c; James A. Corvill, Pittsford, orange tree, 25c; Mrs. W. Hutchinson, Gardiner, house plant, 75c; Miss M. L. Tarbox, verbenia plant, 50c; Miss Elizabeth Adams, Gardiner, tea rose, 50c; Mrs. H. Swan, Gardiner, vase of dahlias, 50c; Mrs. W. F. Richards, Gardiner, vase of flowers, 25c; Miss S. J. Randall, Gardiner, 2 bouquets, 100; Master S. B. Glazier, Hallowell, basket orange squashes, gratuity, 25c; Mrs. C. F. Foster, geranium, 25c; Mrs. Sarah Rhodes, Gardiner, asplen tongue cactus, 25c; Miss Margaret A. Allen, Gardiner, 2 pots plants, 25c; Miss H. Webb, Gardiner, cut flowers, 25c; Miss Meervee, rose geranium, 25c; Samuel Austin, West Gardiner, Isabella grapes, gratuity, 75c.

DUCKS IN CHINA.
It is well-known that a considerable portion of the inhabitants of China dwell in floating houses, or rather in boats, with large and convenient cabins, where men, women and children may be seen in abundance, having no other home, and gaining a slender livelihood by some occupation that does not require a residence on terra firma. In the neighborhoods of Canton, many of the owners of these movable dwellings employ themselves in rearing ducks; and the sagacity which these animals exhibit is remarkable. Every morning they are allowed to leave their habitation, and indulge in their aquatic amusements; and sometimes five or six hundred of these noisy creatures are seen sporting on the waters near one of these floating duck pens. They never stray far from their homes—and the sound of a little tinkling bell seems to produce a magical effect.

The moment the first sound of the bell is heard, the ducks hasten towards their home with astonishing swiftness, and the commotion thus instantaneously produced in their rank, is amusing enough, each one being apparently anxious to outstrip his companions in the race—and such a scene of shoving, swimming, flying and gabbling is seldom seen among ducks, in any other part of the world than China. This prompt obedience on the part of these stupid water fowl, is the result of education; and the means used, although exceedingly efficient, are very simple.

The last duck which reaches the boat is invariably seized by the duck-master general, and is compelled to undergo a severe drubbing with a bamboo cane—and the fear of this punishment, which they are exceedingly desirous to avoid, ensures the most perfect order and obedience among these animals, which have been considered among the most stupid of the feathered creation.

This mode of managing ducks is somewhat similar to that just and humane expedient resorted to on board of some of the English ships of war, and for aught we know, American also, to induce the men to hasten on deck with all possible despatch, when all hands are called to quarters, or for other purpose. A boat-swain's mate is stationed at the hatchway, and those who happen, through negligence, indolence or accident, to be at the lag end, are sure to get a severe "starting." [Portland.]

MARINE LOSSES. The record of American vessels, totally lost with their cargoes, as reported for the month of November, is 9 ships, 2 barques, 7 brigs and 8 schooners. The value of the vessels is estimated at \$627,000, and of the cargoes, \$948,000, and the total value of vessels and cargoes is set down at \$1,575,000. The ships lost were the Silas Wright, S. M. Fox, and Louisiana, of New York; the Rio Grande, and Lady Franklin, of Bath; Colia, of Kennebec; North Star, of New London; Col. Cutts, of New Orleans; and Julia Howard, of Southport, Conn. The barques were the Octavia, of Portland, and Three Brothers, of Boston. Two of the brigs were large vessels, the Pampho, of Deer Isle, at \$300,000, and the Ciudad Bolivar, of New York, at \$200,000. The most valuable cargoes were those of the Silas Wright, and S. M. Fox, valued at \$300,000, and the Lady Franklin, \$80,000.

MANUFACTURE OF STEEL. There are eighteen establishments for manufacturing steel in our country; these have a capacity for making 14,000 tons per annum. We have the best ore in the world for making steel.

THE NAUTILUS.
The New York Courier says that Major Sears has invented a machine called the Nautilus, which entirely supersedes the necessity for the use of the old cumbersome and inefficient appliances in submarine operations; and on Thursday, 13th ult. in response to invitations from the American Nautilus and Submarine Company, a large number of Merchants and Scientific gentlemen took an excursion to witness the operations of one of the Nautilus Machines. On the way to the Cove, Major Sears made an address to the guests, and by means of working models explained the principles of the invention. The speaker illustrated its capabilities for performing submarine operations of any kind, and at the close of his remarks was roundly cheered.

After the discussion of a fine collation, a company of officers, deputed by the U. S. Navy Department at Washington, descended in the Nautilus. While under water they hatched on a block of stone weighing 5 tons and containing 50 cubic feet, returning with it to the surface in 4 min. 30 seconds. After moving through the water about 30 feet, they descended again, deposited the stone and returned to the surface, having been in the bell 9 min. 37 seconds. After this trip, ladies and gentlemen descended a dozen together, and expressed themselves highly gratified with their experience.

The apparatus is a combination of a reservoir, charged with condensed air by a steam air pump, stationed at the surface, and connected by flexible hose with the Nautilus, which is in the water. The apparatus may be in various forms: the present is an inverted truncated cone with a spherical top. It is about ten feet in diameter at the largest part, and eight feet in height. It is made entirely of boiler iron of great thickness. It is independent of suspension, and floats at the will of the operator. There are chambers on both sides of the machine into which water is admitted when it is desired to sink the machine. By opening a valve at the top, connected with the hose from the reservoir, air is admitted of sufficient density to counter-balance the density of the water outside. The requisite density is determined by proper gauges placed in the side of the operating chamber.

In order to lift weights, a bar with swivel hook is passed across the bottom. Affixing this hook to a stone or other weight, the water-valves are opened, and condensed air from the reservoir is admitted to the chambers. This expulsion of water, exercises a lifting power exactly equal to the weight of the water expelled. As soon

LATER—
The steamer
land on We
ter than the
arrival.

The Glor
Wyndham
the Bengal
H. Barnard
will proceed

The Muse.

THE EMIGRANT'S CHILD.
By Helen L. Bowditch.

The prairie winds are blowing,
The prairie winds are deep,
Where one, the youngest of our flock—
Our white lamb—lies asleep!
From white lamb to the "Western bound,"
Went forth a funeral band,
There was no funeral, for life, not death,
The emigrant had planned.
Her baby took, of faded blue,
We saw her at the end,
There was no coffin, save a box,
By rough hands rudely made;
Yet tears had fallen, as they shaped
Its pattern by the dead.
No pastor—yet as true a prayer
Rose up from that black rock.
As comforting to stricken hearts,
As fraught with faith in God,
As ever rose in rose in costly pile,
By surplined bishop tried.
Oh! tearfully the mother weaned
That prairie, bleak and bare;
No shelter from the sweeping winds,
Or scorching heat, was there.
They told her how the long, fresh grass,
Would deck the place in Spring;
How, every May, the prairie rose,
Its fragrance there would cling;
She mourned there was no shadowing tree,
Where birds might come and sing.
So there—its journey early done—
"The baby" lay at rest,
While the white winds of the Emigrants
Toiled onward toward the West.
And many mixed the prairie tongue,
That made the route to go,
But oftentimes to the mother's eye,
As sleepily she lay,
Came visions of the lonely grave,
On the prairie far away.

The Story-Teller.

From the Boston True Flag.

CURING A GRUMBLER.

Or, Three Days at Home.

By Oliver Optic.

First Day.

"There, my dear, I have brought you home three quarters of berries," said John Paley, the blacksmith, as he laid the basket down upon the table.

"What in the world did you bring three quarters for? I can't use more than two," replied Mrs. Paley.

"Oh, well, now I think of it, Mrs. Thompson wants a quart, and wished me to get it for her, if the man came along today."

"Humph! Now I think of it, I want them myself, and Mrs. Thompson cannot have them!"

"Never mind; I left a quart at the shop for luncheon to-morrow; she can have them."

"Certainly; if she wants them, she can have them."

"You take good care of Mrs. Thompson," added Mrs. Paley, with a slight sneer.

"Only take a quart of berries for her."

"That is more than she would do for you or me."

"Oh, no, I guess not."

"I asked her to lend me her wash-tub the other morning, and she wouldn't do it," replied Mrs. Paley, rather spitefully.

"Wouldn't do it?"

"No."

"Wouldn't lend you a wash-tub?"

"John Paley was astonished and indignant. Mrs. Thompson was a widow who lived in the next house, and he had frequently been called upon to perform sundry little chores for her, which her lonely condition required; and now to have her refuse to lend him his wash-tub, was the height of ingratitude, and he resolved on the spot that Mrs. Thompson should not have the berries.

"She isn't an angel," added Mrs. Paley.

"I never supposed she was. Wouldn't lend you her wash-tub?"

"No, she wouldn't."

"I am surprised; when was it?"

"Last Monday morning."

"Last Monday morning? You did not go for her to tub on Monday morning, did you?"

"I did; at what other time should I want a tub?"

"Yes; and at what other time should she want a tub?"

"Well, I only asked her for it, and it was mean of her not to let me have it, after we have done so much for her."

The editor John wanted to say that, like the editorial journalist, only meant himself, but he had no wish to stir up strife.

"She told me she had her clothes in it," continued Mrs. Paley.

"Well!"

"She didn't seem willing to lend it to me, so when she offered to take them out, and let me have the tub, I told her she needn't trouble herself."

"It was very wrong, Mary, for you to ask her to lend you her tub on Monday morning."

"I suppose so; if any one was wrong, of course, I am the one," pouted Mrs. Paley, disgusted by her husband's partiality and injustice.

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Second Day.

"John Paley was of an easy temper. He was disposed to make the best of things as he found them; but there was no such thing as compromising with inconstant grumbling. Unlike many others, he could not be driven to the drum shop or even the usual haunts of loafers in the country places. He was obstinately bent on staying home in the evening. He was fond of reading, and home was the centre of his thoughts. Even the perversity of his wife could not eradicate this deeply seated love of home.

Still home was not a pleasant place to him, at least not half as pleasant as it might be. Mary loved him—she could not doubt that. During long illness the winter before, she had been unremitted in her devotion. A piece of red hot iron flew into his eye so that the ball of it had nearly run out. He had suffered the most intense agony. By day he groaned with anguish, and he saw the tears of his wife fall as she witnessed his suffering. By night, while he tossed in agony, she watched by him, nor slumbered nor slept for a week. His pain was here, and while he suffered she never complained of the watching and privation that his illness occasioned, she never used an ungentle word, even when, worn out with suffering, he became teary and impatient.

She loved him; she could sacrifice all her comforts to him, and why should he not bear with her infirmity? Should he, who had been so tenderly watched over, who had been nursed and cherished so devotedly by her, cast her out—should he cast her affections belated from her?

It is true, her failing was a grievous one. It gave him a continued uneasiness. It kept him harassed from one week's end to the other. It almost embittered his very existence.

"I will cure her," said John, while he was going home one day, as a new idea penetrated his brain. "She will find fault with me when I carry this log of wood. It will be either too large or too small, too fat or too lean, too good or too bad. I will cure her."

Mary did find fault with the wood—it was too fat, and too large, and too good for persons in their circumstances. But John held his peace and sat down to supper.

"What sort of tea is this?" said he, as he pushed the cup petulantly from him.

"What is the matter of it?" asked his wife, astonished at such a display of "spunk" on his part.

"It is too strong of hot water. I should like to get a decent cup of tea once in my life."

"Why, John?"

"It is nothing but dish water."

"I am sorry it don't suit you."

"It never suits me," he added as he broke open a hot biscuit.

"Never suits you?"

"No," and at the same moment he threw the broken biscuit upon the plate. "Salutaris, again."

"What is the matter with the biscuit, John?" asked Mrs. Paley, amazed at the singular conduct of her husband.

"There are great junkies of salutaris in it. If there is anything I detest it is the taste of salutaris in bread."

Mary took the broken biscuit and examined it. There is only a single yellow speck to be seen in it.

"There is one little place; I will cut it out. Pray take another, John?"

John did take another and broke it open; but perceived another speck of the offensive substance scarcely bigger than the head of a pin.

"Haven't you any cold bread?" he asked as he threw it back upon the plate.

"There is none in the house," replied poor Mary, ready to burst into tears with grief and vexation.

"Give me a piece of pie, then."

Mary gave him a piece.

"Sour as will!" exclaimed he, as he pushed his plate from him.

"Strong enough of cloves to strangle a fellow," said he. "Strange that I can't get any thing that is fit to eat."

The poor wife could bear no more. Her eyes filled with tears and she sobbed aloud. John was not disposed to carry the lesson any further. Mary, as much as she found fault herself, was extremely sensitive, and she could not endure the slightest censure.

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"I never will again."

"My own Mary! Forgive me if I caused you pain."

"But no worse than you are almost every day."

Mary thought a great deal that night.

Third Day.

The battle had been fought and the victory won. Mrs. Paley's heart was full of tenderness and sympathy. She could not have realized much pain her careless and useless grumbling caused her affectionate husband, or she never would have indulged in the habit. She would not make him unhappy for the world, and now when the lesson had opened her eyes she set a guard upon her tongue.

Almost always a habitual grumbler is an indolent person. A man or woman whose mind is occupied has no time to be discontented. But Mrs. Paley was a kind of moral indolence. She permitted her noble faculties to sleep for the time, and discontent stole in while the sentinel was off guard. She had chosen a new course of action, but she had to watch with ceaseless vigilance just to curb the disposition to complain. To be indolent was to lose the battle, and to lose the battle, perhaps, to alienate the affections of her husband.

But her best efforts were not wholly successful. She would forget herself and grumble before she thought; but John persevered in his attempt to effect the cure.

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"Once in a while, my dear; we haven't had any this year."

"They are very nice."

"And cost me only ten cents a pound."

"Very cheap."

John sat down to tea. Unfortunately the biscuit were sadly discolored with salutaris; indeed they were as yellow as saffron.

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She loved him; she could sacrifice all her comforts to him, and why should he not bear with her infirmity? Should he, who had been so tenderly watched over, who had been nursed and cherished so devotedly by her, cast her out—should he cast her affections belated from her?

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PROSPECTUS FOR 1857.

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TERMS----\$2.00 per annum: \$1.75 if paid in advance.

To subscribers in the Provinces and Canada, twenty-five cents are added to the above rates, to defray postage to the lines.

No Agent is authorized to deviate from the regular rates, and persons are cautioned against paying money to any one offering the Farmer for less.

JANUARY.	MAY.	JULY.	SEPTEMBER.
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PROSPECTUS FOR VOL. XXV.

THE MAINE FARMER will soon enter upon its 25th Volume, the closing year of the quarter century of its existence. It has now been so long before the public, and its character and objects are so well understood by the Farmers, Mechanics, and Working Men of Maine, that the Publisher deems it unnecessary to say aught about it in that respect. He wishes, however, to tender his grateful acknowledgements for the liberal and increasing patronage that he has hitherto received, and to inform his friends and the public that he shall endeavor to keep up with the spirit of improvement, by a corresponding outlay to improve the next Volume of the Farmer. He will therefore commence it with new type, (considerably enlarging the present size of the sheet,) on paper of improved quality, and use every exertion to obtain new embellishments and illustrations, by engravings, of animals, fruits, farm buildings, &c., &c., and make such other additions in various ways, as the wants of his readers may require, and the amount of patronage enable him to do.

The paper will remain under the editorial charge of E. HOLMES, whose capabilities as an Agricultural editor are well known.

The farmer, mechanic, and artisan, especially, are invited to lend us their support, and in return we promise to furnish them information with re-

gard to their various pursuits, from the best sources. Agricultural and horticultural operations of every kind, and important discoveries and improvements in the mechanic arts, we shall place before our readers at an early period after being made public.

As a family paper, also, we shall spare no pains to make it second to none other. Selections from the best tales and miscellaneous matter of the day will be found upon the fourth page, in addition to a department expressly devoted to religion and morality. This feature of the paper has met with much favor, and we shall spare no pains to make it still more attractive.

We shall also give the latest local and foreign news, up to the hour of publication. The reports of the doings in the State and National Legislatures will be full, and carefully made up.

In short, we mean to make it, pre-eminently, what its title claims for it, "An Agricultural and Family Newspaper;" one that shall be worthy of even more generous support than it now enjoys.

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RUSSELL EATON.

AUGUSTA, Nov. 4, 1856.

S. N. TABER, TRAVELING AGENT.